TOWN COUNCIL.

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT MONDAY NIGHT'S SESSION.

Seymour P. Gilbert Reappointed to the Board of Assessors—Essex Cross Railway Franchise Ordinance Submitted—Saloon License Transfers Laid Over.

There was a large attendance at the Town Council meeting Monday night. Political leaders, trolley men, and anti-trolley men, saloon men and anti-saloon men, and the members of the Councilmanic Auxiliary were present. Mr. Eichorn, of Lake Street, who attends Council meetings for the express purpose of asking office holders what they do in return for their pay, was in his usual corner.

An important appointment was made Monday night when Chairman Ward named Seymour P. Gilbert for member of the Board of Assessors. The vote in the Council over confirming the appointment was a tie. Messrs. Wood, Unangst, and Conlan voting for confirmation, and Messrs. Thompson, Harrison, and Farrand voting against it. The Chairman cast the deciding vote and the appointment was declared made.

Monday night was the date fixed for action on the applications of Otto C. Beyer and Theodore D. Steckwerth for license transfers. Councilman Farrand asked that the applications be laid over until the next meeting of the Council, as something in connection with them had just been called to his attention and he desired to make investigation before voting. His request was granted.

Councilman Thompson introduced the Morton Street sewer ordinance to first reading and also the resolution for the opening of Walnut Street extension and Jerome Place.

The clerk read the following letter to the Council from Dr. W. H. Van Gieson. *To the Honorable Town Council*:

GENTLEMEN: Your letter relative to complaint of Councilman Unangst regarding vaccination cases with censure of the Board attached came duly to hand. As every question is supposed to have two sides, it appears to me as if there would have been a greater element of fairness in the matter had the other side been heard before passing censure, still my judgment in the matter may be warped. The matter simply resolves itself into this: I merely asked the party to get an order from Mr. Lind, as I had been informed by members of your body that he was the only proper and legal person to issue such orders; but it seems I was misinformed and the fault must be laid to this and not to any unwillingness on my part to perform every duty required by my office. Very truly yours,

W. H. VAN GIESON, M. D.,
Township Physician.

The letter was ordered filed.

On motion of Councilman Harrison of the Finance Committee, a warrant was issued for the payment of $8,000 of the floating indebtedness of the town.

Chairman Ward stated that under the terms of the new franchise with the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company the town was entitled to another free telephone, and at his suggestion it was ordered placed in the isolation hospital at Brookdale.

John A Lawrence of the Essex Cross Railway Company submitted a copy of the franchise ordinance applied for by that company. The document was referred to the Franchise Committee.

Commotion in Police Circles.

Policemen and attaches of the Police Department and the Recorder's Court who were not vaccinated made haste on Wednesday to undergo that operation. The police headquarters and the local jail were subjected to a thorough fumigation on that day, and the usually placid and genial Recorder was in a state of perturbation throughout the day.

The cause of the commotion in police and court circles was Stephen Connors, a colored man who had been roughing it here for the past eight months and is now in the isolation hospital suffering from smallpox. Connors ambled in the police station between eight and nine o'clock Wednesday morning and told Chief Collins that he was sick and wanted to see the Health Officer. A physician had sent him there he said, because he appeared to be suffering from smallpox. The Chief at once directed him to an isolated chair in the station house and forbade him to move from the spot. Inspector Gilbert was hurriedly sent for, and in a short time after the man was in the hospital cab and on his way to Brookdale. Connors said that he had been sick about four days, and he has been the cause of a widespread exposure of the

pleases his friends in the appointments and salaries, taxpayers in the municipal budget, and pleases his vote on excise prob- regarded as a successful and diplomat of unth bright prospects be- advancement.

TOWARD LOWER TAXES.

COUNCILMAN CONLAN'S RESOLUTION TO THAT EFFECT.

Councilmanic Committee to Review Public Expenditures for Purposes of Reduction—Will Begin Work at Once—Will not Impair Governmental Efficiency.

An important step toward a lower tax rate was taken Monday night by the Town Council, when Councilman John R. Conlan offered a resolution having an important bearing on the matter of taxation. In offering the resolution Mr. Conlan said: "While I believe the town should not in any way be hampered in its various departments or in any way crippled so far as schools, police and fire department are concerned, I am in favor of such a movement to materially reduce the cost."

The resolution was as follows:

"Resolved, That a committee of the Town Council be appointed by the Chairman of the Council to inquire into the necessary expenditures of the town government and ascertain if a more economical plan can be adopted with a view to materially reducing the tax rate without affecting the efficiency of any department of the town government."

Chairman Ward appointed on the committee Councilmen and Conlan Harrison, with himself as a member. They are to report at the next meeting.

Reflects on Municipal Ownership.

One of the most important objections to municipal ownership of public conveniences is a business one. Those appointed or elected to manage the financial department of any branch of a municipal government invariably yield to the pressure of favoritism, and as a consequence a formidable arrearage account in time encumbers the municipal books. The city of Orange is a case in point. That city has a water department among its governmental fixtures, and it has been a source of great scandal to the city. The *Chronicle* of that city thus criticises the management of the water department:

"Forty-four thousand dollars arrears of water rents in this city extending over a period of five or six years! In other words, a delinquency of some twenty per cent. a year, through neglect or favoritism, in the collection of money due the city treasury, and so much needed that the city is a constant borrower. This is an astounding condition of affairs—a sheer case of criminality toward the taxpayers of the city—and if it be allowed to continue will sadly affect our good financial credit. To save ourselves and our good name immediate notice should be given by the Water Clerk to delinquents, without fear or favor, that all arrearages must be paid at once or legal steps will be taken to collect the same, and the Clerk should also enforce the rule that if water bills are not paid by a fixed date the water will be shut off. The calm indifference displayed by responsible officials in the city government to the opinion of the public in regard to these irregular proceedings and malfeasance of others under appointment is incomprehensible. The day of reckoning approaches a little nearer and a little nearer. And when it comes we will not be in great doubt as to who will pay the fiddler."

There is not much doubt but what an inspection of the books of the Orange Water Company, a private corporation, would show a striking contrast to that of the Orange city department. Private corporations can eliminate political favoritism and do business on strictly business principles.

A Political Surprise.

A sensation was sprung in local political circles yesterday when it was publicly announced that Dr. W.F. Harrison, now member of the Council from the Second Ward, had consented to be the candidate on the Citizens' ticket for Councilman-at-Large. The announcement is no idle political rumor. Dr. Harrison has been waited upon by well-known citizens and asked to accept the nomination, and the request has been accompanied by promises of earnest support. His friends claim that they can carry the Second Ward for him easily, and that he will receive a large vote in the other two wards.

Floating Debt Reduced.

During the fiscal year close the Council reduced the floating indebtedness in the amount of $8,000. That sum was placed in the general tax levy and represented a considerable number of points in the tax rate.

BOARD OF TRADE.

NOW OFFICIALLY ORGANIZED FOR BUSINESS.

Officers and Executive Committee Elected—Titles for Standing Committees — Address by George W. Tompkins, President of the Newark Board of Trade.

The Bloomfield Board of Trade is now one of the institutions of the town. The meeting held on Wednesday night gave definite shape to the organization, and put it in a position for taking up the work that its promoters have in view for it.

The election of officers took place, and these officials were unanimously elected: President, Thomas McGowan; Vice-President, Joseph F. Vogelius; Secretary, Peter J. Quinn; Treasurer, Charles R. Underwood; Members of Executive Committee: for one year, William S. Dodd and John A. Lawrence; for two years, Joseph F. Vogelius and Dr. H. W. Cornelison; for three years, Allison Dodd and H. G. Taube. The Executive Committee organized by electing William S. Dodd as Chairman, and Secretary Quinn was authorized to have the constitution and by-laws published, and procure membership cards and such other material as the Secretary's office required.

The Standing Committees of the Board will have the following titles:

Railroad Interests Committee.
Manufacturers Committee.
Taxes and Valuations' Committee.
Sewerage and Drainage Committee.
Buildings Committee.
Municipal Committee.
Internal Trade Committee.
New Industries Committee.
Suburban Homes Committee.
Membership Committee.

John A. Lawrence suggested a number of the above committees, and briefly outlined the scope of work of each one of them

The Committee on Railroad Interests will find work at hand as soon as it is appointed, as the Board adopted a resolution on Wednesday night to assist the residents of Watsessing in the fight against the removal of the Watsessing Avenue railroad station to Arlington Avenue.

President George W. Tompkins, of the Newark Board of Trade, was the guest of the local Board on Wednesday night and made an address, in part as follows:

"MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLMEN: Your President has invited me to speak to you on the value of a Board of Trade to a community, and to give my experience and views as to what should and should not be done to make it prosper and be of benefit. Hastily, and with an apology for the haste and lack of thorough consideration, I have jotted down a few thoughts on the subject.

"In every community will be found a number of residents who are greatly interested in all matters that relate to the public welfare; they may be strong party men in politics, of different religious views, but above all they love their homes and desire only the general good, and the consequent advancement of their town.

"How are such men to bring out and consolidate public sentiment? If one man moves alone and attempts to do much talking, he is immediately called a crank, or pronounced as being 'fresh,' or a meddlesome busy-body. You may then organize an Improvement Association, which is an advance, and can be used effectively for much good, but an Improvement Association is generally local in its operations, and its influence is frequently confined to the limited section or area most strongly represented in its active membership; besides it has no standing outside of its home; whereas, a Board of Trade, duly established, is recognized and acknowledged as belonging to the general system of organizations of that character throughout the country and world in the exchange of information, the opportunity to send delegates to conventions and meetings of all kinds for the consideration of all public questions. State and National Governments quickly respond to all requests for information. Governing boards hasten to reply, and with the growth of membership comes to the Board increased respect and a noticeable desire for its approval, and from the Board under the impetus of larger powers due to greater strength, greater care, more thorough consideration, and the confining of action to reasonable measures must be maintained, if you are to achieve success.

"Politics and religion must not be discussed or alluded to, if you expect to continue in business. Your presiding officer must firmly call to order the speaker at the very first word. If you think a new member does not understand the rule to this effect, have him at once informed rather than be obliged to call him to order later.

"Meetings will often take care of

(Continued on Page 4.)

BOARD OF TRADE.

(Continued from Page 1.)

themselves; that is, discussion of interest and profit will arise that will occupy the session hour, but it is much better to arrange in advance a general programme, and to have knowledge of what reports will be presented, their length and importance, and how much discussion is likely to take place in their adoption. If you are likely to lack business of interest arrange for a speaker to address you on some subject closely associated with the important questions of the hour. Anticipate, if possible, the wants of the community; try to secure the remedy of some deficiency of service before every one has lost interest in their complaints, and in doing this be fair to all, and give notice to those of whom you are complaining, that they may be present and defend themselves; confine your committee reports to absolute facts, and prepare your comparisons and tables from authorities that cannot be impeached.

"While proper reference of all matters coming to the attention of the Board requiring investigation should be made to your respective committees, each committee should take up the consideration of various subjects within the scope of their assigned field, and if in their judgment they see room for a change or improvement, they should make an investigation and report to the Board, and in this way valuable aid is given, and the interest in the meeting at which this report is presented is sure to be exhibited by the attendance of at least the members of that committee.

"In all organizations there are a large number who feel that they cannot properly express themselves in debate. They are generally men of ability, of deep thought and our best citizens, for they have become members from principle, and not, as in some cases, to gain opportunity to talk. How will you get from such their ideas, and have them interested by action? Let me suggest that you select a subject for an evening's discussion, subdivide it into four or more divisions, and invite from all who will not talk, a five or ten minute paper on whatever subdivision each one may select. If the writer is too modest to read his paper, he can assign that to your secretary. You will find in this way many new ideas presented that can be followed up with profit in subsequent meetings.

"During the year the Newark Board of Trade holds at least two dinner meetings, which are separate and distinct from our annual dinner. On the selected evening we assemble at 6.30 o'clock at some caterer's, and without formality sit down to a dinner that costs each person one dollar, which sum is collected by the caterer, as no tickets are sold or issued. After the coffee the regular order is curtailed as much as possible, and we listen to one or two invited speakers, generally from out of town. The purpose of these meetings is largely to make our members better acquainted, and to increase and bring out sociability.

"Much can be said as to the value of organized efforts, as put forth by a Board of Trade. Even if you are not large in numbers, you will be respected and shown consideration in just the same degree that you stand back to back, firm and unyielding, as you are fair and considerate in your demands, when such demands are based on right and the public good. Nothing will hurt you more than the continual clamor of some egotistical, vaporing crank, with a theory that he is airing at all times, and a good presiding officer can generally, with a little help from the floor, put such a person out of debate.

"To make a Board of Trade truly successful you must get into it as member ever true lover of his town, those who will stand up for it under all circumstances. These will form your Old Guard, who will rally to the support of your Board at every call. Each retiring President, your directors and the chairmen of the committees should rally to the President's call, no matter how sudden, and give to him aid and support When you have reached this stage of interest your success is assured."

Mr. Tompkins named several particular instances in which the Board of Trade had been instrumental in effecting the adoption of beneficial policies in the city, and his personal experience in coming to Bloomfield by trolley Wednesday night led him to believe that the Newark Board of Trade and the Bloomfield Board of Trade could make common cause in an effort to secure better transportation services. Mr. Tompkins extended a cordial invitation to the members of the Bloomfield Board to visit the Newark Board on the occasion of some of the latter's meetings.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Tompkins for his address and his manifest interest in the local organization.

President McGowan, in some brief remarks relative to the new organization, said that it offered an opportunity to the Bloomfield people that had long been needed here, and he hoped they would take advantage of it. Many questions arose from time to time of public importance that should be discussed publicly, and investigated by committees of citizens outside of official or political environment, and the Board of Trade afforded just such facilities. He hoped that the organization would grow and prosper, and become an influential factor in local affairs, and he also hoped that all the present members would use personal endeavor to make the organization a success in numbers and influence.

LOCAL VANDALISM.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEARS FROM LONG-SUFFERING CITIZEN.

Some Things that Give No Encouragement to People to Locate Here—Many Ordinances on Record, but No Practical Enforcement of Them—Indifferent and Neglectful Parents at Fault.

There are now on the books of the town ordinances of sufficient number and of proper character to make the town an exemplary one in respect to such matters that tend to promote a clean and attractive appearance of the public highways, and insure the safety of pedestrians from injury or insult, and for the enforcement of such disciplinary powers as to keep the drunken, the lawless and the degenerate class within proper restraint. But all these moral and disciplinary ordinances are mere matters of record. Dodgers and other advertising litter are recklessly strewn about the streets and private premises by men and boys employed to do so by business houses, both local and out of town. Base-ball players make playgrounds of the public highways, greatly to the danger of drivers and pedestrians, and of damage to private property, and the malicious and mischievous pranks of the children of indifferent and neglectful parents are beyond enumeration.

The suffering complainant is told that he has his redress through the police court. To seek such redress is simply to make enemies of his neighbors, whose undisciplined and neglected offspring is the source of his troubles. To avoid personal action in the matter he pays his taxes towards the maintenance of a local government, whose duty it is to afford him the protection that he is entitled to.

One of the most significant features of the laxity of public discipline in this town is the vandalism that defaces and damages fences and other parts of private property.

The Town Council on Monday night received a letter from a long-suffering citizen, whose case is one of many people here who have reached the conclusion that any attempt at public ornamentation here is simply to invite an attack from the lawless and vicious elements that appear to have determined that no property-owner shall enjoy the right to indulge his ambition to elevate his place beyond the condition of an ordinary pig-pen. The following is the letter:

To the Town Council:

GENTLEMEN: The subscriber wishes to call your attention to the fact that the grill work on the stone coping in front of the premises No. 50 Broad Street has been for years subjected to the vandalism of certain lawless individuals; that the scrolls, though made of wrought iron and very strong, have been distorted by man's strength and wrenched out of shape and so bent as to project far above the top; that the coping itself is being constantly disfigured by red, blue, green and white chalk marks from end to end, and frequently by scandalous obscenity; that the attention of the local police has been frequently called to these abuses, but without effect. The object of this communication is to request that steps be taken to end the abuse complained of.

It is shameful that a town of over ten thousand inhabitants is incapable of restraining its lawless elements and protecting the private property of its citizens. The matter furnishes a constant object lesson to those who might wish to locate here, and most certainly would largely influence such to choose some other locality, where private property is better protected and disciplinary control is better administered.

The conditions described have existed for months; have been the subject of public comment; have been observed by individual members of your honorable body, without any effort to remedy the abuses complained of.

With a tax rate of $3.25 the individual taxpayer has certainly a right to demand some little protection to his private property. Respectfully,

R. W. GARDNER.

BLOOMFIELD, March 12.

Political Items.

The First Ward Republican Club held a meeting last night.

The Boards of Registry and Election will meet on Tuesday, April 1, to revise the registration for the spring election. The Boards will meet in the respective polling places in the town from one o'clock in the afternoon until nine o'clock in the evening.

Frederick R. Pilat will be nominated by petition for member of the Town Council from the Third Ward.

Second Ward citizens held a meeting Wednesday night to select a candidate for Councilman, but adjourned without action.

Daniel J. Brady, it is said, will be the Democratic and Citizens' nominee for Councilman-at-Large.

William Douglass Moore is said to be the leading candidate for the Republican nomination for Councilman in the First Ward.